

Operation Identification

To protect your property from theft and to help ensure its return if recovered, it is important to engrave a driver's license number into your pocket bike for identification. Pocket bikes do not have VIN numbers for DMV or Police Officers to reference. Engravers are available to borrow from the Milpitas P.D. Community Relations Unit. Please fill out this form and keep it in a safe place to be used if your pocket bike is stolen.

Make: _____

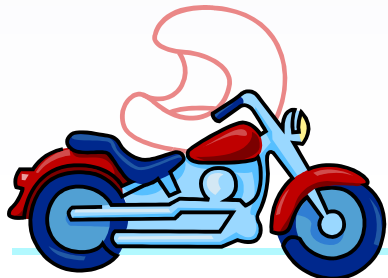
Model: _____

Year: _____

Color: _____

Number Engraved: _____

Location Engraved on: _____



Chief Charles Lawson

*The Milpitas Police
Department is committed
to the protection of lives
and property by working
with our community and
providing professional and
responsive police services.*



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POCKET BIKES

**Don't get
taken for a
ride.....**



Milpitas Police Department

What is a Pocket Bike?

*These mini-motorcycles have roots in Europe as entry-level to the full size GP motorcycle racers. They range in size from 1'4" to 2'2" and are priced from \$300 to over \$3000 for a race ready bike. Owners manuals clearly state that they are intended for use on closed tracks. Unfortunately, these bikes are being mass marketed as "scooters."

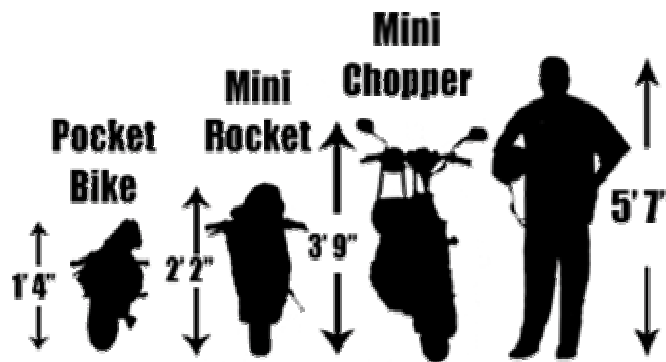
*Pocket Bikes are actually "motor-driven cycles" as defined in section 405 of the California Vehicle Code. A motor-driven cycle is a motorcycle with an engine displacement of less than 150 cubic centimeters.

*Since pocket bikes are considered motor-driven cycles in the Vehicle Code, they must be registered and insured to be used on the street. The driver must have an endorsement for a motor-driven cycle on their license and wear a DOT motorcycle helmet. However, pocket bikes do not meet Federal safety standards and do not have proper vehicle identification numbers. Because they do not conform to these standards, they cannot ever be licensed and must be used only on private property or closed courses. They can never be used on the street or sidewalk.

*Regardless of what the dealer tells you, they are not scooters.



* Drive a pocket bike on the road and you will be stopped and may be cited for several violations, including an unsafe vehicle (24004 CVC). The officer may also tow the bike under section 22651 (O) CVC, as an unregistered vehicle, and 22651 (P) CVC, if you are not properly licensed. If you are unlicensed, your pocket bike may be impounded for up to 30 days. The fees for that impound can be \$1300 or more.



Comparison

	Motor-Driven Cycles	Pocket bike	Scooter	Moped/Motorized Bicycle
Helmet Required	Yes	CANNOT BE USED ON PUBLIC STREETS/SIDEWALKS	Yes	Yes
Street legal	Yes		Yes	Yes
Sidewalk legal	No		No	No
Age Requirement	16		16	16
Driver's License Required	M1		None	M2
Insurance Required	Yes		No	No
Night Lighting Equipment	Yes		Yes	Yes
Registration	Yes		No	Yes



The Laws!

400 CVC Motorcycle Definition

A "motorcycle" is any motor vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider, designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, and weighing less than 1,500lbs.

405 CVC Motor-Driven Cycle

A "motor-driven cycle" is any motorcycle with a motor that displaces less than 150 Cubic Centimeters. A motor-driven cycle does not include a motorized bicycle as defined in Section 406 CVC.

406 (A) CVC Motorized Bicycle

A "motorized bicycle" or "moped" is any two-wheeled or three-wheeled device having fully operative pedals for propulsion by human power, or having no pedals if powered solely by electrical energy, and an automatic transmission and a motor which produces less than 2 gross brake horsepower and is capable of propelling the device at a maximum speed of not more than 30 miles per hour on level ground.

407.5 CVC Motorized Scooter

A "motorized scooter" is any two-wheeled device that has handlebars, is designed to be stood or sat upon by the operator, and is powered by an electric motor that is capable of propelling the device with or without human propulsion.

12804.9 CVC M1/M2 Endorsement Required

An endorsement is required with a valid Class A, B, or C license. A motorcycle or motorized bicycle will be towed for 22651(p) CVC if the driver does not have the proper endorsement. A motorcycle will be towed for 14602.6 CVC (for 30 days) if the driver does not have a valid license or endorsement or the license is suspended.

Helmet Requirement

27803 CVC DOT approved helmet for motorcycles and motor-driven cycles.

21235(C) CVC Bicycle helmet for Scooters and Mopeds.

4000(A) CVC Vehicle Registration

Motor-driven cycles must be registered and display a plate per 5200 (B) CVC. Mopeds/motorized bicycles must display a special license plate per 5030 CVC.

16028(a) CVC Insurance Requirement

Insurance is required for motorcycles and motor-driven cycles. It is not required for scooters, mopeds, and motorized bicycles.

24004 CVC Unsafe Vehicle

Pocket bikes do not meet federal motor vehicle safety standards. They cannot be used on a public road.

